

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): A microporous composite membrane comprising a microporous polyolefin membrane and a porous coating layer of a gelable fluororesin formed on at least one surface of said microporous polyolefin membrane, said coating layer having cylindrical penetrating pores.

2. (original): The microporous composite membrane according to claim 1, wherein said penetrating pores have an average diameter of 0.1-50 µm.

3. (currently amended)A method for producing the microporous composite membrane recited in claim 1 or 2, comprising the steps of coating at least one surface of a microporous polyolefin membrane with a solution of a gelable fluororesin in a mixed solvent of a good solvent for the fluororesin, and a poor solvent having a dipole moment of 1.8 Debye or less, and drying it to form a porous coating layer of said fluororesin.

4. (currently amended): A battery separator constituted by the microporous composite membrane recited in claim 1 or 2.

5. (currently amended): A battery comprising a separator constituted by the microporous composite membrane recited in claim 1 or 2.